

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method for identifying a product specification for a batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material comprising

providing said particulate material;

measuring and obtaining at least one interfacial potential property value for said batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material, and including the interfacial potential property value on a product specification sheet, purchase order, invoice, contract, waiver to a contract, or combinations thereof for the batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material, wherein said particulate material is carbon black or silica.

2-6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of specifying at least one morphological value to said batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said specifying comprises including the morphological value on a product specification sheet for the batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the morphological value is selected from surface area, particle size, structure, porosity, or combinations thereof.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of specifying at least one chemical value to said batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said specifying comprises including the chemical value on a product specification sheet for the batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the chemical value is selected from pH, functional group level, or zeta potential.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the particulate material is carbon black.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the particulate material is fumed silica.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said interfacial potential property value is determined by conducting an absorptometry method that comprises determining volume of a liquid added to said particulate material at maximum torque.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the absorptometry method uses a liquid other than DBP or paraffin oil.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the absorptometry method uses water, ethylene glycol, or mixtures thereof.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the interfacial potential property value is determined by a wicking rate method comprising measuring the rate of wicking of a liquid up a bed packed with said particulate material.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the interfacial potential property value is determined by a yield point method comprising measuring degree of flocculation as Bingham yield point.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the interfacial potential property value is determined by a interfacial potential vapor adsorption method comprising measuring a spreading pressure of a gas on said particulate material.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the interfacial potential property value is determined by an inverse gas chromatography method comprising measuring retention of time of a gas probe flowing through a bed packed with said particulate material.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the morphological value is determined by measuring liquid adsorption, measuring vapor adsorption, microscopic analysis, or combinations thereof.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the morphological value is determined by an adsorption method comprising measuring the adsorption of iodine, nitrogen, CTAB, DBP, or paraffin oil by said particulate material.

26-68. (Canceled)

69. (Currently amended) A method for identifying a product specification for a batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material comprising

providing said particulate material;

measuring and obtaining at least one interfacial potential property value for said batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material, and including the interfacial potential property value on a product specification sheet, purchase order, invoice, contract, waiver to a contract, or combinations thereof for the batch, lot, or shipment of particulate material, wherein said interfacial potential property value of said particulate material is a measurement of at least one physical property that depends on the interaction of said particulate material with at least one

other material or with itself, after the effects of morphology have been removed in said measuring and obtaining of said interfacial potential property value for any physical phenomenon that responds to both morphology and interfacial potential, and wherein said particulate material is carbon black or silica.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, wherein said interfacial potential property value is determined by:

conducting an absorptometry method that comprises determining volume of a liquid added to said particulate material at maximum torque; or

a wicking rate method comprising measuring the rate of wicking of a liquid up a bed packed with said particulate material; or

a yield point method comprising measuring degree of flocculation as Bingham yield point; or

a interfacial potential vapor adsorption method comprising measuring a spreading pressure of a gas on said particulate material; or

an inverse gas chromatography method comprising measuring retention of time of a gas probe flowing through a bed packed with said particulate material.